

court began the practice of residence
in the old
palace of the emirs amid the Moslem
popula-
tion of Palermo. For some years yet,
however,
Messina remained the seat of
government at least
equally with Palermo,

The transference of the capital was
made on the
death of Simon, who died September
28, 1105,
while yet a boy of twelve, and left his
brother heir
to Sicily under Adelaide's regency.
The in-
fluences that surrounded Roger's
boyhood and
shaped his whole intellect and character

from
the Moslem and Greek secretaries
eunuchs,
servants, and officials who filled the
court at
Messina or Palermo., and the

popu-
lace of those cities, He grew up to

the
Greek and the Moslem as his the
Nor-
man feudatories as his I,
had caught something of the mixed

of
the races whom he ruled for thirty
In

his
son, half Italian as he the

simplicity*
the rural tastes, and. the delight In
of

the
northern races disappeared; in their

the
young Roger was made familiar with
the
and ceremony of a half-Oriental court,
with the cal-
culated cruelty of the and with
the
luxury of the richest land in Europe,
He
the subtle craft of the and his
mind was fashioned to a was as
much the result of temperament as of Of
the Nonnaa stock of Tancred he
the blonde type, the
nor the